

THE VIRASAIVA MOVEMENT

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mortal in a bad one. The badge of the relationship between *God* and His servant is to speak the truth, to act according to speech. The worldly man who speaks lies, who acts contrary to speech, God will not accept. The world of Gods and the world of mortals are not different. To speak the truth is the world of the Gods. To speak untrue is the world of mortals. Cleanliness is heaven; uncleanness is hell. This Avorld is the testing-house of the Creator. Whoever passes here passes in the other world. He who does not pass here cannot pass there. Kindness and courtesy are the essential marks of devotion to God, He is a devotee who folds his hands to another devotee. Sweet words are equal to all the penances. Good behaviour is what pleases the God of eternal good. What is that righteousness that has not kindness? To all alike there should be kindness. Kindness is the root of all righteousness. God Kudala Sangama will have naught of aught else.

Basavanna said that he was dull of wit and saw not the way and prayed to God to lead him as they lead the born-blind by staff placed in the hand and teach him to trust and love the way of God's true servants. Man should follow that way and win the love of God. This is the essence of success in life. Without that love life is empty.

"My God, I wait like a woman "who has bathed and rubbed

on turmeric, and decorated herself,
but has not the love
of her husband. I have rubbed on the
sacred ash. I have
put on the holy beads. But Lord, I
have not your love.
Men of our creed do not live as
renegades. Love me and
save me, God Kudala Sangama."